



Great Plains Development Authority Selects Watco as Rail Operations Provider

PARSONS, KAN. (August 22, 2022) — Great Plains Development Authority (GPDA) has selected Watco as the new rail operator of the Great Plains Industrial Park (GPIP) in Parsons, Kansas. Watco will begin performing services as of January 1, 2023, serving existing customers and growing the business.

“We see tremendous potential for growth, expansion and economic development in the region with this long-term partnership,” said Dan Smith, Watco CEO.

Great Plains Industrial Park is served by the Union Pacific Railroad and has more than 6,800 acres of property and 26 miles of track. Watco will provide switching, transload, warehouse, material handling, truck and logistics services including an approved Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) for rail- and non-rail-served customers within the park.

“The GPDA Board and GPIP staff are excited to welcome Watco to the Great Plains Industrial Park and the Kansas Proving Grounds,” said Brad Reams, Great Plains Industrial Park Director. “The opportunity to partner with a Kansas-based, international transportation and logistics service provider is invaluable. The service offerings and business development capabilities within the park are now at a world class level.”

About Great Plains Industrial Park

Great Plains Industrial Park (GPIP) is the first carbon-neutral industrial, transportation, and economic development park in the U.S. Created in 2012, the 14,000-acre park with 30 miles of rail, is located near Parsons, Kansas. GPIP is regionally, and nationally, positioned to be a central distribution hub and contains all necessary infrastructure to facilitate small scale turnkey operations and large industrial production development. For more information, visit www.greatplainsindustrialpark.com or follow us on LinkedIn.

About Watco

Watco is a leading transportation service and logistics company. Meeting customer needs on a day-to-day basis has enabled Watco to continually grow throughout our nearly 40-year history. Today, Watco provides transportation, material handling and warehousing, logistics, railcar repair, and design and development for customers throughout North America and Australia. For more information, visit www.watco.com.

Media Contacts

Great Plains Industrial Park - Brad Reams | (620) 778-9743 | breams@parsonsk.com

Watco - Tracie VanBecelaere | (620) 704-1288 | media@watco.com